

Age Scotland, About Dementia, and Scottish Government Funding Partnership

Empowering Dementia Friendly Communities

Guidance for applicants

Deadline for applications: **5:00pm Friday 11th March 2022**

Email address for submitting applications:

DementiaGrants@agescotland.org.uk

Introduction

Age Scotland and About Dementia are delighted to have been invited to work in partnership with the Scottish Government to distribute funding for supporting work around Dementia Friendly Communities (DFCs) across Scotland. This guidance covers one of several strands of work that will take place over the course of the next twelve months. This first strand focuses on empowering DFCs, and embedding existing learning from work already underway.

With this open call for applications, we want to ensure that this funding reaches the communities who can benefit most and deliver the most impact. This is not limited to geographical communities, but also includes communities of interest which can generate relationships that extend beyond physical location. We aim to fund a diverse range of work in different areas across Scotland.

DFCs are already well established in Scotland thanks to investment from the Life Changes Trust. The recent evaluation of this investment by Hammond Care (2021) has shown the significant contribution made by these communities, both to individuals and families affected by dementia, as well as to enriching community life. This has been further recognised in the endowment of funds to Life Changes Trusts Legacy Partners. This funding stream should be seen as complementary to this broader picture of work which contributes to a Scottish model of DFCs.

We are delighted to see this investment in community-led approaches from the Scottish Government, and a focus on ensuring sustainability for both existing and new DFCs over the coming year.

Organisations can apply for funding of between £25,000 – £100,000 for projects lasting up to 12 months.

Any legally constituted organisation or group of organisations can apply. As this funding stream builds on and continues the themes of the Life Changes Trust's call for Local Legacy Partners in 2021, beneficiaries of the Local Legacy Partner fund will not be eligible to apply.

Please see the full guidance below for more information about eligibility criteria and how to submit your application.

For further details about this fund, please contact:

Adam Huntley, Grants and Learning Coordinator
Adam.huntley@agescotland.org.uk / 0131 668 8053

Jen Kean, Grants and Learning Coordinator
Jennifer.kean@agescotland.org.uk / 0131 378 7283

Who are Age Scotland and About Dementia?

Age Scotland are the national charity for older people in Scotland. We work to improve the lives of everyone over the age of 50 so that they can love later life.

Launched in 2019, Age Scotland's About Dementia project was funded for five years by Life Changes Trust to facilitate a forum for policy and practice for people living with dementia and unpaid carers. We have a wide partnership of organisations and a growing activist base who help to shape and inform our work. We empower the voices of people with lived experience to identify the changes that need to take place to improve policy and practice in Scotland.

Age Scotland and About Dementia are National legacy partners of the Life Changes Trust. The Life Changes Trust was established by The National Lottery Community Fund in April 2013 with a ten-year endowment of £50 million to support transformational improvement in the quality of life, well-being, empowerment, and inclusion of three key groups in Scotland: people living with dementia, unpaid carers of those with dementia and young people with care experience. The Trust will conclude their ten-year tenure in March 2022.

As a legacy partner, About Dementia have been working to build upon the learning generated by DFCs in Scotland (both funded through LCT and existing independently from) and will inherit the work of the Trust's community of learning and practice around DFCs.

What are Dementia Friendly Communities (DFCs)?

The emergence of DFCs across Scotland has been a key part of community-led approaches to Post Diagnostic Support (PDS). In 2013, the Scottish Government set out a framework for PDS, outlining a commitment to one year's worth of this support for people newly diagnosed with dementia. The community-led work through DFCs complements the policy-led offer of PDS, and in some cases, fills the gap where a formal offer has not been made or accepted.

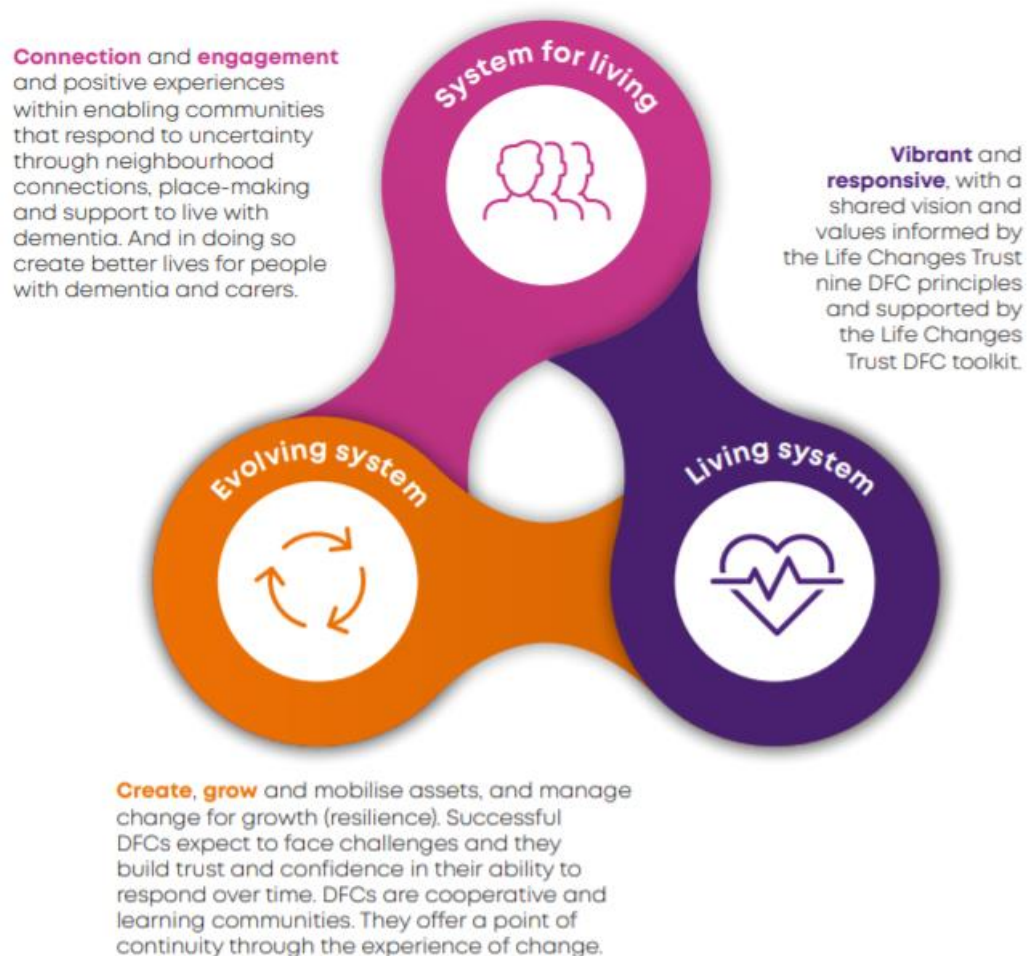
DFCs focus on relationships and inclusion to enable people with dementia and unpaid carers to be actively engaged with their community. The aim of a DFC is not to separate people with dementia or unpaid carers from others, but to include them to the fullest extent possible. These communities have emerged at a local level, but also include communities of interest, bringing people together through a focus on topics as diverse as walking football, singing, performing arts and ballet.

The Life Changes Trust's Dementia Programme first funded DFCs in 2015 and since then the Trust has funded 40 DFCs across Scotland.

The Hammond Care evaluation found that DFCs:

- come in different shapes and sizes, delivering a range of diverse services and networks across Scotland
- create a better life for people living with dementia and unpaid carers
- deliver added value to the communities they serve
- can effectively deliver PDS
- create opportunities for influencing policies through partnerships and direct political action

The DFC model is now well established in Scotland, and exists as an evidence-informed template for emerging DFCs across Scotland.



(Image Source: *The DFC Model*, in 'Stories from the Dementia Friendly Communities Evaluation', Hammond Care 2021)

For more information on Life Changes Trust funded Dementia Friendly Communities and the Hammond Care evaluation, please click the links below:

[Community and Dementia: A Whole Life Approach](#)

[Evaluation of Dementia Friendly Communities](#)

Examples of community-led forms of Post Diagnostic Support (PDS)

Meeting Centres are a form of hyper-localised, community driven PDS. They are designed through co-production with a range of different community members and stakeholders, and often involve statutory services, though they are not driven by these. In contrast to day centres or more traditional approaches, Meeting Centres are not regulated services, but instead are community-led driven by the needs and wishes of the membership, who attend on a regular basis. The focus of support is also on both the person living with dementia, as well as family members.

Kirrie Connections opened in 2019 in Kirriemuir, Angus as the first Meeting Centre in Scotland. Life Changes Trust provided funding to Kirrie Connections to enable the expansion of this model across other areas in Scotland. Building upon this work to formalise a Meeting Centre network in Scotland will be part of the broader work of this fund.

Meeting Centres are an example of a community-led form of PDS which also focuses on ensuring sustainability. **We have included Meeting Centres as an example of a DFC, but this is not limited to Meeting Centres. Other forms of DFCs embodying the key principles are highly encouraged to apply for funding.**

What do we mean by the term dementia friendly?

We know that people may prefer to use the terms dementia enabled or dementia responsive, rather than dementia friendly.

In the 'Community and Dementia' volume of *Dementia: A Whole Life Approach*, the Life Changes Trust define dementia enabled as 'a physical environment that is adjusted to make life easier, and places more accessible, for people living with dementia.' Dementia friendly is defined by 'relationships and inclusion' within those communities. They believe both are important and that they overlap.

We use the term dementia friendly to define the work that will be funded by these grants. This means that funded projects should have a focus on empowering communities to create relationships and foster inclusion. The work should ensure that people living with dementia and unpaid carers can do the things that are important to them.

Through the learning emerging from the Life Changes Trust funded DFCs, they have identified nine key principles detailed below that should be common to any DFC. It is important to note here that how these principles are expressed will vary as each community is unique.

Key principles emerging from DFCs

- They adopt a social model of disability, rather than a medical model

- They take an assets-based approach that identifies and mobilises individual and community ‘assets’, rather than focusing only on problems and needs
- People with dementia and carers have a significant say, that places them at the heart of the community so they can shape it
- They are multi-generational
- They enable people with dementia and carers to do what really matters to them
- They provide appropriate training to staff and volunteers that goes beyond awareness raising
- They meet with other communities so they can learn from each other
- They collaborate with others and work in partnership to maximise use of resources and skills
- They mentor new communities, who mentor new communities

What is the purpose of this fund?

The purpose of this fund is to empower the work of both new and existing Dementia Friendly Communities across Scotland. We are looking for projects that are focused on developing relationships, fostering inclusion, and empowering people living with dementia and unpaid carers to be actively engaged with their communities.

Alongside this, we are looking for projects that will work with About Dementia to share learning and embed the DFC model across Scotland. This will be done by both working with About Dementia to feed learning into our policy and influencing work, and actively engaging with the DFC learning and mentoring network that will be launched this year.

What do I need to demonstrate in my application?

Applicants will need to demonstrate:

- How this work benefits and empowers people living with dementia and unpaid carers in their community (geographic community or community of interest)
- A commitment to involving people with lived experience in the shaping and delivery of all work
- A strategic approach to Post-Diagnostic Support
- An evidence base that supports your approach
- How the work will be achieved within the **12-month** timescale, with a proposed timeline
- A detailed plan for longer term sustainability

- A commitment to sharing learning and practice through the Dementia Friendly Community learning and mentoring network and About Dementia's forum for policy and practice.

Who can apply?

Any legally constituted organisation or group of organisations can apply.

As this funding stream builds on and continues the themes of the Life Changes Trust's call for Local Legacy Partners in 2021, beneficiaries of the Local Legacy Partner fund will not be eligible to apply.

Those who applied to be a Trust Local Legacy Partner but were unsuccessful are welcome to apply for this funding.

Age Scotland member groups who are currently holding a grant from Age Scotland are eligible to apply for this funding.

How much funding is on offer?

This is a small, one-off grant funding opportunity with a total of **£166,632** is on offer.

Applicants can apply for awards in the region of **£25,000 - £100,000. Please note that this funding cannot be used towards capital costs.**

We expect to make **three to four awards**, but this will depend on the applications received. We reserve the right to make fewer awards or a larger number of awards.

Where can I get more information or discuss my application?

You can contact About Dementia's Grants and Learning Coordinators Adam Huntley and Jen Kean and arrange an appointment with them to discuss any questions you may have on the contact details below:

Adam Huntley, Grants and Learning Coordinator
adam.huntley@agescotland.org.uk / 0131 668 8053

Jen Kean, Grants and Learning Coordinator
Jennifer.kean@agescotland.org.uk / 0131 378 7283

Who will be assessing the applications?

Your application will be assessed by an assessment panel that will include people living with dementia and unpaid carers of people with dementia.

If a member of the panel knows the applicant or has a conflict of interest, they will not be involved in the application's assessment.

When will applicants hear if they have been successful or not?

You will hear by **5:00pm Friday 25th March 2022**.

When will successful applicants receive payment?

Your Award will be paid as soon as you have completed due diligence checks and an Award Letter has been issued. Due diligence checks include verification of bank accounts, evidence of key policies, and similar.

You will receive the Award as a lump sum payment. **This funding is strictly time limited therefore we need beneficiaries to be able to receive the Award as a lump sum by 1st April.**

What are the requirements of this funding?

Successfully funded applicants will need to do the following:

- Complete the funded work within a 12-month timescale
- Work with About Dementia and Age Scotland to define requirements for regular reporting and develop an evaluation framework
- Participate in and contribute to the DFC Learning and Mentoring Network and About Dementia's policy and influencing work
- Submit six-monthly finance and progress reports
- Follow communications guidance from Age Scotland / About Dementia around branded materials and promotion.

We are committed to being a supportive and flexible funder. We will work together with successful applicants to develop a reporting and evaluation structure that works for your funded project.

Match funding

There is no requirement for match funding, though applications with match funding will still be considered where this will enable sustainability and embedding of learning within local policy making processes such as Integration Joint Boards.

Completing the application form

Please fill out the separate application form with as much detail as possible. Please explain your vision and aims as clearly as you can, so that our assessment panel can get a full understanding of the work you are proposing and the benefits it will bring.

Please provide everything requested in the form. If you require any further information or would like to talk through your application, please contact us in advance of the deadline.

Once you have completed the application form, please email it to:

DementiaGrants@agescotland.org.uk

Age Scotland and About Dementia are not responsible for application forms that are not received by the deadline.